



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

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OFFICE OF
ECOSYSTEMS, TRIBAL AND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

July 20, 2012

Paul R. Anderson, Superintendent
Denali National Park and Preserve
P.O. Box 9
Denali Park, Alaska 99755

Re: EPA comments on the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Denali Park Road Vehicle Management Plan, EPA Project #08-050-NPS.

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Denali Park Road Vehicle Management Plan, in Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska (CEQ # 20120206). We have reviewed the EIS in accordance with our responsibilities under National Environmental Policy Act and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. Section 309 specifically directs the EPA to review and comment in writing on the environmental impacts associated with all major federal actions as well as the adequacy of the EIS in meeting procedural and public disclosure requirements of NEPA.

In our September 22, 2011 comments on the Draft EIS we identified our support for Alternatives B and C because we considered them to be environmentally preferable, and also noted that Alternative C provides for greater visitor opportunities, thus enhancing the public's appreciation of the Park's resources. Finally, we stated that Alternative C may also provide more opportunities to lower income and disabled visitors. We assigned an overall rating of "LO-Lack of Objections" to the Draft EIS.

The Final EIS has identified Alternative D, which emphasizes a daily maximum limit and an adaptive management strategy, as the preferred alternative. While this alternative may not be preferable in terms of impacts, we believe that with effective implementation of the adaptive management strategy and monitoring, impacts will be minimized. We encourage you to continue to look at creative ways to provide for visitors with low income and disabilities to promote Park opportunities to a wide spectrum of visitors.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to review the Final EIS. Please contact me with any questions you have regarding our comments at (206) 553-1601 or by email at reichgott.christine@epa.gov, or you may contact Jennifer Curtis of my staff in Anchorage at (907) 271-6324 or curtis.jennifer@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Christine B. Reichgott".

Christine B. Reichgott, Manager
Environmental Review and Sediments Management Unit